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Letter dated 26 April 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to bring to your attention the statement on constitutional reforms in Bosnia and Herzegovina, issued on 23 April 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the text of this letter and its annex distributed as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Inocencio F. **Arias**
Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations

* Reissued for technical reasons.

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Annex to the letter dated 26 April 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

[Original: English, French and Spanish]

Statement on constitutional reforms in Bosnia and Herzegovina, issued on 23 April 2002 by the Presidency of the European Union on behalf of the European Union

The European Union welcomes the completion of the process of amendment of the constitutions in both entities of Bosnia and Herzegovina, in compliance with the Constitutional Court's decisions on the equal status of the constituent peoples throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The European Union commends those political leaders in both entities whose efforts have brought this constitutional reform process to a successful close, in accordance with the Sarajevo Agreement of 27 March. It also commends the efforts undertaken by the High Representative to facilitate those efforts. Serious doubts have been cast, however, on the abilities of other political actors of Bosnia and Herzegovina to engage as responsible partners with the international community.

Bosnia and Herzegovina has taken an important step forward in terms of its democratic development and commitment to the rule of law. The constitutional reform was indeed crucial for the future stability of Bosnia and Herzegovina and for the development of the country according to modern European standards. It signifies progress in Bosnia and Herzegovina's approximation to European structures. The European Union encourages all leaders of Bosnia and Herzegovina to fully embrace this outcome and to engage in a swift implementation of the constitutional reforms.